

Councillor Catherine Connolly Ar Son an Phobal

Vótáil Uimhir 1

Local elections: Friday the 23rd May 2014



Councillor Catherine Connolly

Contact Details

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Dear Voter

I was first elected to the Council in June 1999 and since then I have proudly served the people of Galway as a City Councillor.

Indeed, I have always considered it a special privilege to have had the opportunity to represent the residents of the area at City Council level.

In this role, I have worked tirelessly together with many residents' associations, clubs and organizations and in partnership with the relevant City Officials and members of the Garda Síochána for the common good.

It is my intention to stand once again as an Independent Candidate in the forthcoming local elections on the 23rd May, 2014 and I am asking for your support so that I can continue to represent you as a City Councillor.

Beidh mé ag brath ar do chuid tacaíochta ar an lá ionas go mbeidh me in ann leanacht ar aghaidh ag obair ar bhúr son.

***Councillor Catherine Connolly-Independent
Vótáil Uimhir 1***

Over the coming weeks I will be canvassing door to door and look forward to meeting with you and discussing any issue you wish to raise with me personally and/or through any of the contact details set out above.

I will also be returning to canvass the Claddagh/Grattan Rd/Fr Griffin Rd, Salthill and Munster Ave areas with a more detailed policy newsletter prior to the election.

Claddagh, Fr Griffin Rd, Grattan Rd, Salthill & Munster Avenue

Brief Updates

The City Council:

- Is currently retesting the soil in South Park and this should be completed by the end of March.
- Is in the process of completing an application for a foreshore licence to enable commencement of works on a coastal protection scheme and walkway between Blackrock and Silver Strand.
- Has now been provided with the necessary funding to repair the storm damage on the promenade, Cecilia Griffin Memorial Park and South Park and hopefully the gravel on the prom will be removed as part of these works.
- Has confirmed that drainage remediation works are scheduled for Fr Griffin Road this Summer along with road maintenance works for San Antonio Tce and Park.
- Has refurbishment plans ready for the empty houses in the Claddagh but still awaiting funding.
- Is working on a licence system to stop the unacceptable discharge of fats, oils and greases into the Waterways and the Claddagh Basin.
- Is looking for suitable site in the Claddagh to reinstate the removed bottle bank.
- Test water quality each bathing season: Re Blue Flag Status for Grattan Beach, this is only possible if stringent standards for water quality for the previous four years have been met, a process that is ongoing

Work in Progress / Issues of Concern

- **Recent flooding** in Toft Park / Lower Salthill: Work in progress on the provision of a barrier scheme which can be installed and removed as weather conditions determine.
- **South Park** designated as an **area of special amenity**. The challenge remains to have it designated officially and to ensure the completion and implementation of the promised remediation and master plan for the park.
- Oral Hearing sought in relation to the proposed **development at Galway Harbour** as part of my written submission to An Bord Pleanála.
- **Traffic calming and community enhancement** schemes completed and/or in progress and always in full consultation with affected businesses and residents and subject to ongoing reviews.
- **Dog fouling** and the failure of dog owners to control their pets continues to be a source of major concern to residents. It is a matter I have raised publicly and at Council level and I have sponsored and facilitated an educational workshop on responsible dog ownership in the Claddagh national school. I hope to sponsor further such initiatives over the coming year as well as working with Council staff for the erection of appropriate signage particularly in South Park.
- **Blue Flag Status for Grattan Beach** still outstanding but remains very high on my priority list.
- **Cecilia Griffin Memorial Park** is now a protected park within the City Development Plan- next step - to complete a safe looped walk from South Park walkway/cycleway to the Cecilia Griffin Park.
- **Blocked drains** remain a major concern and require ongoing representations to the City Council along with **flooded pedestrian crossings**.
- Most of the outfalls discharging **raw sewage** into our waterways and the Claddagh Basin have now been discontinued but unfortunately work still outstanding on the few outlets remaining.
- Ongoing implementation and monitoring of the **Barcelona Declaration** to make our City universally accessible.